



# NEWS RELEASE

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **FREEWAY TRAVEL TIME SIGNS EXPAND TO VENTURA COUNTY** *System Helps Motorists Plan Their Commutes*

**VENTURA COUNTY --** The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) is extending its program to provide estimated travel times on electronic overhead freeway message signs to Ventura County beginning Friday, June 2.

The two signs will be located on the Ventura Freeway (U.S. 101), northbound at Westlake Boulevard in Westlake Village and southbound at Ventu Park Road in Thousand Oaks. The northbound sign will post estimated travel time to Lewis Road (SR 34); the southbound sign will post estimated travel time to the San Diego Freeway (I-405).

The program has been operational in the greater metropolitan Los Angeles area since August 2005. Currently, there are 30 signs in Los Angeles County. "This visual method of communication provides motorists with an additional information tool to plan their travels," said Frank Quon, Caltrans Deputy District Director for Operations. "Caltrans is happy that commuters in Ventura County will now have this information as well."

Although the travel times are based on real-time information, gathered from sensors embedded in the roadway, Caltrans is cautious to note that the actual traffic conditions can change rather quickly. A major incident, Sig-Alert or child abduction Amber Alert will supercede the estimated travel time displays. Additionally, a traffic accident could immediately impact traffic in an area before the message signs would receive an updated message. Conversely, emergency response personnel may be able to clear an accident or debris from the freeways, relieving traffic congestion, before the message signs would receive an updated message.

Caltrans District 7, covering Los Angeles and Ventura Counties, has been a national leader in the delivery of advanced traffic solutions.

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